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## IRISH IN AMERICA.

If the Handiwork of the Sons of the Tight Little Isle Were Painted Green the Average American City Would Be Splashed on All Sides  
With Emerald Hues.

A certain green tinge in a northerly sea is the historic home of the Irish people; but the present address of at least two-thirds of the scattered race is "United States of America." Boston, not Belfast or Dublin, is now the greatest Irish city in the world; and the overwhelming majority of Irishmen who have risen to places of distinction have done so under the Stars and Stripes. The historian who shall do full justice to the Irish has not yet appeared. The truth is they have contributed their share of leaders and pioneers in almost every line of progress. At least seven of our Presidents have had more or less Irish blood in their veins. McKinley was fond of saying, "We Irish." Roosevelt also has several Hibernian twigs on his family tree. This is an amazing record of Celtic leadership to have helped to mold the character of seven American Presidents.

In the making of America the Irish have been structural. In the clearing of forests, the digging of canals, the building of railroads and the extension of commerce, our civilization owes a great debt to Irish hands and Irish heads. If the handiwork of the American city would be splashed on all sides with emerald hues. A New Yorker, for example, may rise in the morning, bathe in water that comes from the Croton dam, built by James Coleman, ex-President of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick; breakfast on Cudahy bacon; then take the subway, built by John B. McDonald, past the new College of the City of New York, built by Thomas Dwyer, to his office in a skyscraper built by John D. Crimmins, where he will cable to Alaska over a line laid by David Lynch, to order certain freight sent via James J. Hill's Great Northern railroad. Then with a cigar bought from one of George J. Whelan's 300 cigar stores, he will read the New York Sun, published by William M. Laffan, and delivered by the American News Company, founded by Patrick Farrelly—and remark to an English friend: "Yes, of course, this is an Anglo-Saxon country."

When Clarke wrote his famous poem on "Kelly and Burke and Shea" it was supposed to be a poetic fancy. On the contrary, it is a simple matter of American history that the Kellys, the Burkes and the Sheas have been to the fore in every generation. They were all there in the battle of Lexington as well as in the death list of the Maine. When Hobson sank the Merrimack a Kelly and a Murphy were his comrades in danger. William Darrah Kelly, of Philadelphia, was a Congressman for nearly thirty years. Hall Jackson Kelly was the founder of Oregon. The late Eugene Kelly, the New York banker, won renown as a philanthropist. Among the living members of this family James E. Kelly is a well known electrical engineer. The Kelly Axe Company has

a fifty-acre plant in West Virginia, and William Kelly, whose invention has added hundreds of millions to the wealth of the steel industry.

In the Burke family three heroic figures appear in the first chapter of our Revolutionary history—Thomas Burke, the first Governor of North Carolina; Adamus Burke, Chancellor of South Carolina, and John Daly Burke, historian, patriot and duelist. All three were fighters with pen and sword, who made an indelible mark on the Southern State a century ago. In 1872, when Froude cast some aspersions upon the Irish, it was Father Thomas Burke who fought against him. And at the present time we have Burkes enough in the United States to fill a "Burkes Peerage" of their own. There are two Bishops who bear the famous name, at Albany and St. Joseph; one brigadier General, in Oregon; one Congressman, in South Dakota; a railroad President, at Cleveland, and a Judge at Seattle.

As for the Sheas, at least four of them have worked their way to the front—Gen. John Shea, who won his laurels in the Revolution; Capt. Daniel Shays, who first fought at Bunker Hill; George A. Shea, an eminent Chief Justice of New York, and John Gilmary Shea, a century ago, a railroad President, at Cleveland, and a Judge at Seattle.

In the American business world of today a large proportion of the solid men—the men who stand like pillars under the heavy burden—are of Irish blood. Most conspicuous of all stands the financier, Thomas Fortune Ryan. He is one of the greatest masters of financial statesmanship in a different field stands James J. Hill, born in Canada, of Irish parents. He is the creditor of the Northwest, the railway builder who has opened up a territory equal to a couple of Germanys—the steamship builder who has linked America with the markets of the East.

Another New Yorker is Alexander E. Orr, who was nineteen years old before he had seen any other country than Ireland. As a President of large commercial bodies he has few equals. For nearly fifty years he has stood under the heaviest responsibilities, and was chosen, because of his ability and uprightness, to preside over the immense interests of the New York Life Insurance Company. If we speak of great Irish bankers, where is there a large American city without one? In Pittsburgh, where there are a score of banks bulging with steel millions, the dean of the financial fraternity is Thomas Mellon.

In New York there are three at least who are too prominent to miss—Thomas M. Mulvey, President of the Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank; Myles O'Brien and Samuel Bayne, who organized national banks in seven States. Other weighty business men are John Flannery, the Savannah cotton king; Thomas F. Walsh, of Washington; John D. Crimmins, the contractor, who has

added four hundred buildings to New York; Patrick F. Murphy, President of the Mark Cross Company, and well known in New York as an after-dinner speaker.

Many of the most distinguished Judges have been of Irish blood. Among the nine Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States two are Irish by descent, Chief Justice Edward D. White and Justice Joseph McKenna. In New York we find six Judges who are of unusual prominence.

What the Irish have done for America in education would need a small book in itself. To John Tyndall, the notable Irish scientist, the United States owes a double debt, as he not only delivered a course of lectures here in 1872, but devoted the proceeds to the cause of scientific research in America. It would be a sin of omission at this point not to mention the thousands of young women of Irish birth or parentage who are doing faithful work as school teachers in all parts of the United States.

Take away our Irish orators and journalists and this would be a dumb and cheerless country indeed. Here, for instance, is an off-hand list of Irish writers past and present: Capt. Mayne Reid, John Boyle O'Reilly, Ignatius Donnelly, Patrick Walsh, James Jeffrey Roche, Patrick Donahue, P. F. Collier and Dr. James Walsh. The power of expression which is typical of the Irish race rises frequently to the heights of art. The Goddess of Liberty on the dome of the Capitol at Washington was chiseled by the hands of Thomas Crawford, whose son is the well known novelist, F. Marion Crawford.

It is to Dublin we are indebted for St. Gaudens, Victor Herbert, Patrick S. Gilmore and John McCormack. In the religious world we find many noted Irish names: Cardinals Gibbons, Farley and O'Connell, and Archbishops Ireland, Keane and Ryan. No history of the Revolution is complete without its Irish chapter. In 1776, many of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were Irish. When the civil war put American manhood to the test the Irish were everywhere.

That the Irish have been in politics goes without saying, and no Irishman will ever allow the fact to be forgotten that James G. Blaine, one of the greatest figures in all American political history, was of Irish descent. The late Patrick A. Collins, Congressman, Consul General and Mayor of Boston, for years was the foremost Irishman in New England.

Nothing can be more absurd than to speak of the Irish as newcomers in America. No one but a resurrected moundbuilder would be entitled to do that. For the last thousand years or more, whenever there has been any great enterprise on foot, in the thick of things there have always been men with the shamrock in their hearts.—Katherine V. Murley.

## MYSTIC ROSARY.

The Mysteries of the Rosary focus mind and heart upon some event of joy, sorrow or glory in the life of Jesus. There is a vocal element of prayer which, to the heart that loves, is less a distraction towards the lower needs of the fancy or the finger than a Jacob's ladder to lead the climbing feet heavenward towards the stars. A great speaker toys with the trifles on his chain in a paradoxical effort to concentrate his mind on things of the mind.

When Elijah sought the gift of prophecy he besought them to bring him a minstrel. "And when the minstrel played, the hand of the Lord came upon him." He found inspiration where you and I, gentle reader, would find only distraction. Thus the vocal and the manual part of the Rosary, the mere telling and tallying the beads, has its effect in engaging tongue and hand with those lesser activities which leave the spirit free to soar.

Moreover, the bidding of the Aves plays a mystic part in focussing the soul on its Saviour. They determine how long the soul shall be focussed. It is not a mere instantaneous impression; it is a time exposure.

By a delicacy of divine art the length of time during which mind and heart shall rest on God is measured, not by the movement of a hand round a dial, nor yet by the movement of the earth round the sun, but by the circling of beads through hands that pray and the wrestling of Paters and Aves by lips that love.

While the Paters and the Aves move gently between the fingers and through the lips, the soul is resting in its thought of Jesus. Then when the Aves cease, and a certain fullness of time has come, one mystery of Jesus' life gives place to another, as wave follows wave on the deep and rhythm follows rhythm in the songs men sing.

Even thus the prayers said on the lips and the thoughts overflowing silently in the heart, in their rhythmic movement of speech and silence, of mystery and following mystery, become by the fullness of their time and rhythm, a song of songs made to Him whom heaven's glories sing bore with carols to the Vale of Tears.—Vincent McNabb, O. P.

## DEPTH OF OCEAN.

Scientists have found fifty-six acres in the ocean where the water is more than three miles deep, ten where it exceeds four miles, and four where the bottom is more than five miles down.

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